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THE OBSERVATOR.

The Examiner's *Outcry of the Church's Danger from the Whigs, prov'd to be a malicious and groundleſs Slander, by the Authority of the Queen, Parliament, and Upper Houſe of Convocation, and that the real Danger is from his own Party.*

From Wednesday, November 15. to Saturday, November 18. 1710.

Countrym. YOU have put the *Examiner* into a mighty fret, Maſter; he falls to downright Billinſgate, and calling of Names. I believe we muſt let *Joan* looſe upon him again, perhaps ſhe may ſcold him into Temper.

Obſ. I value *Joan*'s Reputation more than that comes to, *Roger*, we had better call an Oyſter Wench or a Porter; but I fancy any School-boy may do the Buſineſs that has been us'd to cap Verſes: Here's one of the Blue Coats has a Line juſt ready for the purpoſe:

Blue Coat. Tantæne animis cœleſtibus iræ.

Obſ. You ſee, *Roger*, the Lad underſtands his Buſineſs to a T. he begins with one, becauſe the *Examiner* ended with one.

Countrym. Ay, but I don't well underſtand Latin, Maſter; what's the meaning of that Line?

Obſ. The meaning of it is this, *Roger*; that a Man, who is ſo much troubled *with overflowing of the Gall*, as the *Examiner*, is very unfit for the Poſt. One who is a Fanatick in Practice, is the moſt improper Man in the World, to engage thoſe who he ſays are *Fanaticks in Profeſſion*, for at that rate we ſhall have mad Work on't.

Countrym. But if he go to Bedlam, Maſter, we are not oblig'd to follow him. Let us mind our Buſineſs.

Obſ. And ſo we will, *Roger*, after giving Mr. *Examiner* one end of Latin more, for the great many he has given us,

Rumpantur & Ilia Codro.

That's to ſay, *Roger*, we don't value the paltry Eruptions of his Paſſion, but will go on, *tho he ſhould fret his Guts to Fiddleſtrings.*

Countrym. I agree with you, Maſter. What do you ſay to his Apology for inſinuating ſtill that the Church is in Danger, contrary to the Declaration of her Majeſty, and the Vote of both Houſes?

Obſ. I am willing to oblige Mr. *Examiner*, *Roger*, who it ſeems *neither has that Vote by him, nor can ſuddenly have recourſe to it.* 'Tis pity he's at ſuch a diſtance from the Queen's Printing-Houſe; therefore to ſave his Mony and Pains, and to prevent his being under a neceſſity of going to ſuch Whiggiſh Fellows as *Jacob Tonſon* and *Tim. Goodwin* for a Copy, I'll ſend him the Queen's Proclamation, with the Votes in it as follows:

ANNE R.

'WHereas of late ſeveral Perſons, endeavouring to *foment Animoſities, and to cover Deſigns which they dare not publickly own*, have falſly, ſeditiouſly and maliciouſly ſuggeſted the Church of *England*, as by Law eſtabliſh'd, to *be in Danger* at this time, whereof we thought fit to take notice in our Speech at the opening of this Parliament. And whereas the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons in Parliament aſſembled, have, by their humble Addreſs, repreſented to us, That having taken into Conſideration our ſaid moſt Gracious Speech, they had, upon mature Deliberation, come to a Reſolution, which they laid before us; aſſuring us, that as we had been pleas'd to expreſs a juſt Indignation againſt all ſuch *wicked Perſons*, they will be always ready, to the utmoſt of their Power, to aſſiſt us, in diſcountenancing and defeating their Practices; humbly beſeeching us to take effectual Meaſures for the making the ſaid Reſolution publick, and alſo for *puniſhing the Authors and Spreaders of theſe* ſeditious and ſcandalous Reports, to the end that all others, *for the future*, may be deter'd from endeavouring to *diſtract the Kingdom with ſuch unreaſonable and groundleſs Diſtruſts* and Jealouſies. We therefore, at the ſaid humble Requeſt of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons in Parliament aſſembled, do, by this our Royal Proclamation, make publick the ſaid Reſolution, which follows in theſe words.'

"Reſolv'd by the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons in Parliament aſſembled, "That the Church of *England*, as by Law eſtabliſh'd, which was reſcu'd from the extreameſt "Danger by King *William* III. of Glorious Memory, is now, by God's Bleſſing, UNDER "the happy Reign of her Majeſty, *in a moſt "ſafe and flouriſhing Condition*; and that whoſoever goes about to ſuggeſt and inſinuate that the "Church is in Danger under her Majeſty's Adminiſtration, IS AN ENEMY TO THE "QUEEN, THE CHURCH AND "THE KINGDOM."

'And we do hereby, by the Advice of our Privy Council, declare, that we will proceed with the utmoſt Severity the Law ſhall allow of, againſt *the Authors or Spreaders* of the ſaid ſeditious and ſcandalous Reports. And we do hereby ſtrictly charge and command all and ſingular our Judges, Juſtices of the Peace, Sheriffs, Mayors, Bailiffs, and all other our Miniſters whatſoever, to take effectual care for the *ſpeedy Apprehenſion, Proſecution and Puniſhment* of all ſuch Perſons, who have, or SHALL AT ANY TIME HEREAFTER, offend herein. And we do hereby further require and command all our loving Subjects whatſoever, to *diſcover and apprehend* all and every Perſon and Perſons whatſoever, offending as aforeſaid; to the end they may be dealt with and proceeded againſt according to Law. And whereas the ſaid ſeditious and ſcandalous Reports have been greatly promoted and ſpread, by the Printing and Publiſhing of a malicious and ſeditious Libel, intitled, *The Memorial of the Church of* England,

humbly

'*humbly offer'd to the Conſideration of all true Lovers* '*of our Church and Conſtitution.* And whereas '*David Edwards* of the Pariſh of *St. Dunſtans in* '*the Weſt*, *London*, Printer, is charg'd on Oath '*to be the Printer and Publiſher of the ſaid Libel,* '*and is now under Proſecution for the ſame, and* '*on that account abſconds from Juſtice, and the* '*Author or Authors of the ſaid Libel is or are not* '*diſcover'd; we do hereby further require and* '*command all our loving Subjects whatſoever to* '*diſcover and apprehend the ſaid *David Edwards*,* '*and the Author or Authors of the ſaid Libel, to* '*the end they may be dealt withal and proceeded* '*againſt according to Law, &c.*'

Countrym. That's a ſufficient Anſwer indeed, Maſter, to the *Examiner*, and fully proves him to be a Criminal, for all his ſhuffling Apology.

Obſ. You know the Proverb, *Roger*; *Some may better ſteal a Horſe, than others look over a Hedg.* The Faction is now come to that height of Inſolence, as to trample upon Law and Conſtitution; but they had beſt take care, Juſtice has Iron Hands, tho ſhe has Leaden Heels, and will ſometime or other come up with the High-Church Lady, call'd *Diſcord*, tho ſhe ſtruts about at preſent, as old *Virgil* expreſs'd it:

Et ſciſſa gaudens vadit Diſcordia palla.

Countrym. Can ſuch an illiterate Fellow as you read *Virgil*, Maſter?

Obſ. Yes, *Roger*, and *Homer* too; tho I don't much care for Capping Verſes, to adorn the Front of my Paper. Lean Diſcourſes reliſh ne'er a whit the better with me, for being larded with *Latin* Sentences. A Fool will be a Fool ſtill, tho he has a Feather in his Cap.

Countrym. Did none of the Clergy at that time concur with the Queen and both Houſes, Maſter, againſt the Clamours of the Church's Danger?

Obſ. Yes, *Roger*, the illiterate Men call'd Biſhops agreed upon an Addreſs in Convocation at the ſame time, which was about five years ago; wherein there are theſe remarkable Expreſſions: ' And 'altho 'tis no new thing for deſigning Men to *pro-* '*ſtitute the Venerable Name of the Church, to the* '*ſervice of their own private Ends*; yet we think 'it very ſtrange that any ſhou'd be found ſo extremely *weak and undutiful, as to be deluded* by 'theſe *groundleſs Clamours*, when they have been ſo 'often and ſo publickly confuted by your Royal 'Word and Actions.——*To inſinuate that the* '*Church is in danger under theſe Circumſtances*, and 'againſt all the Teſtimonies and Aſſurances of 'your Majeſty's Royal Care and Protection, can 'proceed from nothing but *Prejudice, Intereſt and* '*Ambition.* We humbly crave leave to *expreſs our* '*juſt Reſentment* of the Indignity of all ſuch Sug-'geſtions, *not only as falſe and groundleſs*, but 'chiefly as they *are diſhonourable Reflections upon* '*your Royal Promiſes* for the Support of the Church, 'and upon your *Princely Wiſdom* in chuſing the 'moſt proper and effectual Meaſures for that end. 'We beg leave alſo in a deep Senſe of your Ma-'jeſty's Goodneſs, and in an entire Dependance 'upon your Royal Word, to profeſs our great 'Joy and Satisfaction *in the flouriſhing Condition* 'of the Church under your moſt Auſpicious Go-'vernment: We are ſure 'twill always be in your 'Will to ſupport and protect it; and that the '*Diſtractions* which theſe groundleſs Jealouſies are '*intended to raiſe*, may never put it out of your 'power, we promiſe to uſe our utmoſt Endeavours 'to *diſcountenance* them, and in our ſeveral Sta-'tions to defend and preſerve inviolably, ſo far as 'in us lies, the Doctrine, Diſcipline, and Wor-'ſhip of our Church as by Law eſtabliſh'd, and to 'promote Peace and Unity among your Subjects.'

Countrym. I think, Maſter, you have very fairly prov'd the *Examiner* to be a criminal Slanderer, by the Authority both of Church and State; which is pretty well for an illiterate Scribbler. But pray what did the Lower Houſe of Convocation at that time?

Obſ. The High Party in the Lower Houſe, *Roger*, out of a tender Regard to their Superior Paſtors, turn'd *Diſſenters*, and would not agree to their Addreſs, but drew up one of their own, which the Biſhops rejected.

Countrym. Did all the Lower Houſe concur in that Affront upon the Biſhops, Maſter?

Obſ. No, *Roger*, far from it; fifty one of the illiterate Low-Church-Men proteſted againſt the Proceedings of the Highfliers, as Innovations that were dangerous to the State of Epiſcopacy.

Countrym. Say you ſo, Maſter? I'll warrant you theſe were the Falſe Brethren, Presbyterians, and Fanaticks in Maſquerade.

Obſ. No doubt on't, *Roger*; that appears plain enough by their Zeal for Epiſcopacy.

Countrym. Did the Lower Houſe receive their Proteſtation, Maſter?

Obſ. No, *Roger*, the High Party violently interrupted them when they offer'd to read it.

Countrym. How, Maſter! Sure they could not act ſo.

Obſ. I don't ſay how they acted, *Roger*; but the Proteſters told the Upper Houſe, *That they were violently interrupted.*

Countrym. How were they receiv'd by the Upper Houſe, Maſter?

Obſ. Very kindly, *Roger*: The Archbiſhop thank'd 'em in the Name of the Houſe for their Care and Zeal in preſerving the Conſtitution of the Church, and at their deſire enter'd their Proteſtation in the Acts of the Upper Houſe.

Countrym. What did our moſt Gracious Queen ſay to all this, Maſter?

Obſ. Her Majeſty was graciouſly pleas'd to interpoſe her Royal Authority, *Roger*, by a Letter to the Archbiſhop; wherein ſhe declar'd her Reſolution to maintain her Supremacy, and the due Subordination of Presbyters to Biſhops; charg'd the Party with Innovations, and illegal Proceedings, contrary to the Duty they ow'd to Her and their Eccleſiaſtical Superiors; that *they aſſerted things untrue in point of Fact*; that they invaded the Royal Supremacy, repos'd in her by Law and the Conſtitution of the Church; and that by their ſubſequent Declaration they had aggravated the Guilt of their dangerous Attempt upon her Rightful Supremacy, which wou'd oblige her (tho unwilling) to uſe ſuch Means for puniſhing Offences of that nature, if they attempted the like in time to come, as were warranted by Law. This appears by her Majeſty's Letter, *Apr.* 8. 1707.

Countrym. Say you ſo, Maſter? At this rate the Queen is in danger by High-Church, inſtead of the Church's being in danger under her Majeſty's Adminiſtration. Surely the Peoples Eyes will be open'd in time, to ſee that the real Danger of the Church lies among thoſe who make the loudeſt Outcries about it.

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